5690
9/21/89

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

John S. Renza
Director

Edward D. DiPrete
Governor

A Department of Employment Security Publication

Volume # 6 JUNE 1989 No. 6

EMPLOYMENT

Overall Rhode Island establishment employment reached a record high May level of 461,400, as a result of gains in the nonfactory sector, reported John S. Renza, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Employment Security. The current employment total represents an increase of 2,800 jobs from the April level and is 3,800 above the May 1988 figure of 457,600.

Nonmanufacturing employment advanced by 2,800 in the April-May period to 348,100, mainly due to additional hiring in Services (+1,100), Trade (+800), Contract Construction and Transportation/Public Utilities (+400 each). An upturn of 100 workers was recorded in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate while overall Government employment remained at its April level. In addition, total employment in Rhode Island's nonfactory sector is 4,800 more than the year ago figure of 343,300.

The number of factory jobs in the state showed no change from April to May, however, the current level of 113,300 is 1,000 less than the year earlier figure of 114,300. Employment in the Durable Goods sector fell by 100 over the month while the Nondurable Goods producing industries expanded by 100 jobs. Monthly employment gains of 100 each were posted in Stone-Clay-Glass, Jewelry-Silverware, the Miscellaneous Manufacturing segment and Food-Beverage. In contrast, a monthly employment decline of 200 was registered in Electrical Machinery, followed by downturns of 100 each in Lumber/Furniture and Fabricated Metals. The remaining segments - eight in Nondurable Goods and four in Durable Goods reported stable employment in the April-May period.

The May workweek average 39.1 hours, down 0.1 of an hour from April. Production workers average $9.03 per hour in May, up 1 cent from the prior month and 58 cents compared to a year ago.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in Rhode Island increased by 200 from the April level of 22,100 to an estimated 22,300 in May. One year ago, there were an estimated 16,500 persons out of work.

At the same time, the state's unadjusted unemployment rate moved up fractionally from 4.1 percent in April to the current estimate of 4.2 percent. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the May rate advanced to 4.0 percent, up two-tenths of a percentage point from the prior month's estimate of 3.8 percent. In May 1988, the Rhode Island unadjusted rate was 3.2 percent while the seasonally adjusted rate stood at 3.1 percent.

Comparably, Rhode Island's monthly rates still remained below the national figures which were placed at 5.0 percent (unadjusted) and 5.2 percent (adjusted).

NEW LOOK EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN

THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY HAS REDESIGNED THE MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN INTO A CONCISE, EASIER-TO-READ SINGLE-PAGE PUBLICATION WHILE RETAINING THE SAME SCOPE OF EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT DATA PUBLISHED IN THE PAST.

WE HAVE ALSO EXPANDED THE MAILING LIST, AND, THEREFORE, YOU MAY BE RECEIVING YOUR FIRST ISSUE OF THE EMPLOYMENT BULLETIN. AT A LATER DATE WE WILL POLL ALL RECIPIENTS TO DETERMINE CONTINUED INTEREST AND WILL ADJUST THE MAILING ROSTER ACCORDINGLY.

COMMENTS ABOUT THE NEW FORMAT CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE R.I. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, PUBLIC RELATIONS, 24 MASON STREET, PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02903.

1988 D.E.S. ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report of the Rhode Island Department of Employment Security for the calendar year 1988 is now available for general distribution. The report summarizes the Department's response to the employment and income maintenance needs of Rhode Island's citizens and it contains statistical tables relating to departmental operations and 1988 Rhode Island economic data.

Department programs and services highlighted in the report include the activities of the Unemployment Insurance, Temporary Disability Insurance and Job Service Divisions and supporting units which collect taxes, register employers, and provide economic analysis and labor market information. The publication includes a review of the Department's Quality Control program which examines and measures the accuracy of the Unemployment Insurance system.

A copy of the Annual Report may be obtained by writing to the Rhode Island Department of Employment Security, Public Relations Unit, 24 Mason Street, Providence, RI 02903.

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
24 Mason Street
Providence, R.I. 02903-1082

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use, $300

ZIP + 4 PRESORT
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
PERMIT NO. G-12

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

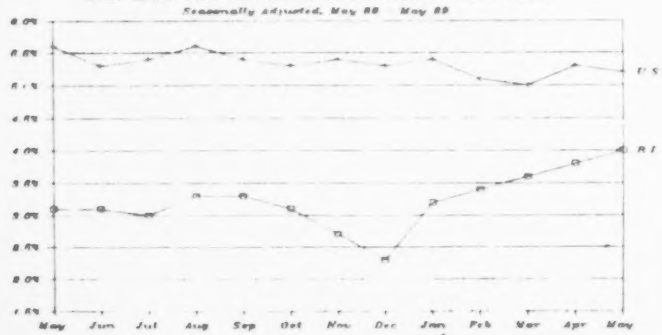
	May 1989	April 1989	May 1988
Civilian Labor Force	534.3	536.4	522.8
Unemployment	22.3	22.1	16.5
Rate (Unadjusted)	4.2	4.1	3.2
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	4.0	3.8	3.1

UNITED STATES

Labor Force - Unemployment Estimates
(In thousands)

	May 1989	April 1989	May 1988
Civilian Labor Force	123,196	122,576	120,775
Unemployment	6,156	6,229	6,553
Rate (Unadjusted)	5.0	5.1	5.4
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	5.2	5.3	5.6

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			NET CHANGE FROM	
	May 1989	April 1989	May 1988	April 1989	May 1988
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT*	461.4	458.6	457.6	+ 2,800	+ 3,800
MANUFACTURING	113.3	113.3	114.3	0	- 1,000
NONMANUFACTURING	348.1	345.3	343.3	+ 2,800	+ 4,800
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	21.9	21.5	20.6	+ 400	+ 1,300
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	16.3	15.9	16.2	+ 400	+ 100
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	104.1	103.3	103.4	+ 800	+ 700
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	26.6	26.5	26.4	+ 100	+ 200
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	118.7**	117.6	117.3**	+ 1,100	+ 1,400
GOVERNMENT (Federal, State & Local)	60.5	60.5	59.4	0	+ 1,100

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

May 1989

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	113.3	353.07	39.1	9.03
DURABLE GOODS	76.6	346.87	38.8	8.94
LUMBER/FURNITURE	3.0	431.54	39.7	10.87
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.9	458.62	38.8	11.82
PRIMARY METALS	4.4	411.46	41.9	9.82
FABRICATED METALS	8.8	333.32	39.4	8.46
NONELECTRIC MACHINERY	5.7	475.58	43.0	11.06
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY	10.9	331.19	38.6	8.58
TRANSPORTATION EQUIP	9.4	445.82	38.7	11.52
INSTRUMENTS	4.7 **	377.92	40.9	9.24
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	21.4	271.88	37.5	7.25
MISCELLANEOUS MFG	6.4	279.89	35.7	7.84
NONDURABLE GOODS	36.7	366.16	39.8	9.20
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.9	333.10	38.2	8.72
TEXTILES	9.9	322.32	40.8	7.90
APPAREL	2.3	300.49	39.8	7.55
PAPER PRODUCTS	2.7	354.77	41.3	8.59
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	7.0	467.70	36.2	12.92
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.4	457.56	41.0	11.16
RUBBER PRODUCTS	1.3	388.86	41.5	9.37
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.1	370.67	39.1	9.48
LEATHER PRODUCTS	2.1	282.46	41.6	6.79

*Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded Current month figures are PRELIMINARY Prior month and year figures are REVISED Compiled by THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY in cooperation with the U S BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

**Labor Dispute

For additional statistical information contact Research and Statistics at 277-3706